

# THE ESTANCIA NEWS.

VOLUME V.

ESTANCIA, TORRANCE COUNTY, NEW MEXICO, FRIDAY, AUGUST 27 1909

NUMBER 45.

## DRAMA PROVES DECIDED HIT

Will Repeat Play Saturday Night  
at Popular Prices

Woodmen hall was crowded to overflowing on last Saturday night, the occasion being the rendition of the southern drama, "The Woodman Picnic" or "The Forged Certificate," put on by local talent, members of the Modern Woodmen of America and the auxiliary, the Royal Neighbors. That the play was well put on and interesting was shown by the fact that although there were over two hundred persons in the audience, not the slightest evidence of anyone becoming restless or losing interest was shown.

"North Carolina Pete" kept the audience in an uproar, calling down the house repeatedly by his sense and nonsense. He proved himself "Johnny on the spot" throughout the evening, appearing just in time to foil the villainous attempts of Rodney Ricker. Susie Wayne true to southern life, refused a life of pleasure and ease, at the expense of her honor, while Kitty Jones fittingly rebuked the black-guard Erastus Green, who desired to meet her only at night and alone. Fritz Stein and Sol Davis, like true Woodmen, aided and protected the widow and orphan, retaining for them the financial protection vouchsafed by the benefit certificate in the greatest of Fraternal Orders.

Nothing has occurred in Estancia for some time to call forth more general praise than the work of the home folks who put the play on, and so great has been the interest shown, that the troupe has consented to repeat the play on Saturday night September 4th. The same popular prices will again prevail, and a good house is assured.

### Methodist Church Notes.

Services at Sunday morning and evening hour by the pastor. You are invited.

At the coming Missionary Convention President Taft will take a prominent part.

Sunday School continues to increase in interest and attendance. Our lesson for next Sunday is unusually interesting. Contribute and help.

Your neighbors. Have you made them feel welcome in the community? Have you been friendly toward them? Have they been invited to Sunday School and Church?

The Ladies Aid Society held an interesting meeting Wednesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Mendenhall. A large number were in attendance. Refreshments were served and plans discussed for advancing and increasing the cause of the Church and Christ.

E. H. Davis, who has a claim northeast of Estancia, came in from Kansas City last week, and has been doing improvement work. He has planted five acres of tree seed, and expects to put out something like twenty acres more. Tuesday morning he shot a rattlesnake near his bed in his ranch-house.

### Mass Meeting.

A mass meeting of the citizens of Estancia and vicinity is hereby called for next Monday afternoon, August 30, at 2 p. m. at the M. E. Church for the purpose of taking action in regard to the Injunction Proceedings now pending in the District Court in regard to removing the county seat from Estancia. Everybody interested in Estancia is urged to be present.

M. B. Atkinson,  
A. J. Green, Committee.

### Machinery Arrives

The first of the week the machinery and immense boiler for the Romero Planing Mill were unloaded and are being placed in position preparatory to getting things in running order. The preliminary work will be pushed as rapidly as possible, as the Romero Company is anxious to get started to work on regular time, having a number of orders on hand which must be filled shortly.

The plant will give work to a number of men, which together with the planing mill and box factory of the English Manufacturing Company will make of Estancia quite a little business center. Right now there is more doing in Estancia and business is better than in any of the other valley towns, and Estancia will stay right in the lead all the time.

### Will We Do It?

The Estancia valley will have a chance to show that it is still on the map and there to stay during the coming twenty-ninth New Mexico Fair and Resources Exposition in Albuquerque, October 11-17. There have been a good many things said about the Estancia Valley, some of them true, some of them partly true and some of them rank exaggerations of the actual conditions.

That the valley in the main in spite of drought and occasional failures of crops is still prosperous and thriving is the thing that the valley people want to show New Mexico at the territorial fair. It behooves Estancia and Moriarty and Willard and all the towns along the line to gather up the best possible exhibit of the valley's resources. Where the crops have been good, displays should be sent to the exposition and there should be a lively bunch of boosters from every town along the line to show that the Estancia valley is still doing business at the same old stand; that it offers the best opportunities in New Mexico and that its people are hardy citizens who do not get discouraged by one unfavorable season.

Taft is to be in Albuquerque during the fair and it is such homesteaders as inhabit this valley that will make the great demonstration in honor of the president effective and boost the cause of statehood. There will be lots of other things besides; the monster Strobel airship in daily flights; a splendid program of horse racing, baseball, the Southwestern Marathon, carnival attractions and the most comprehensive display of the products and resources of all parts of New Mexico ever witnessed.

## TEMPORARY INJUNCTION IN LOCATION OF COUNTY SEAT

Ex-Treasurer Macario Torres Seeks Notoriety and is Caught  
Condemning his own Official Acts

An affidavit and petition of Macario Torres, was filed in the district court at Santa Fe last week, and an injunction granted by Judge McFie, "restraining and enjoining the defendants from building, contracting for, or in any manner authorizing, permitting or allowing the construction of a courthouse or other county buildings for said county of Torrance in or at said town of Estancia, New Mexico until the further order of the court, upon the plaintiff filing with the clerk a bond in the sum of One Thousand Dollars, conditioned as required by law, with good and sufficient sureties." The date for hearing is set as the 16 day of September, 1909, as to whether the injunction shall be made permanent.

In his cause for action the plaintiff sets forth some interesting allegations, most of which are sworn to as facts, a few being upon information and belief.

After reciting that he is a resident of Torrance county, and a legal voter and taxpayer therein; and reciting the act of the 35th territorial legislature creating the county of Torrance, he alleges that the 36th Legislative Assembly "without legal authority and in direct violation of the laws of the United States, amended or attempted to amend said act of the 25th Legislative Assembly" so as to remove the said county seat "from the town of Progreso, where it had been established by law, to the town of Estancia, and that the books and records of said county of Torrance were removed from the said town of Progreso, the legal county seat of said county, to the town of Estancia, and that the business of said county has since said time been carried on by the various officers of said county at the said town of Estancia."

4. "That notwithstanding that the legal county-seat of said County is at the town of Progreso, the said defendant, the Board of County Commissioners of said County of Torrance, as plaintiff is informed and believes, has without authority in law issued or authorized the issuance of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00) in bonds of said County for the purpose and intent of selling said bonds and using the proceeds thereof to build a courthouse in said town of Estancia.

5. "That said town of Estancia is not a convenient and easily accessible place for the location of the county-seat of said county for a majority of the people of said County and that consequently a majority of the people of said county are opposed to the location of the county-seat of said County at said town of Estancia, and are opposed to the erection of any buildings for said County at said town of Estancia.

6. "That a majority of the people of said County of Torrance are desirous of having the courthouse and other County buildings built at the legal county seat of said County and that if said defendants proceed and build or cause to be built a courthouse or other County

buildings at said town of Estancia as they are holding out that they will do, it will be to the great loss and expense of the tax payers of said County for the reason that a courthouse and other County buildings, will as plaintiff is informed and believes be constructed at the legal county-seat of said County and that consequently the money expended in the building of a courthouse or other County buildings at said town of Estancia will be a total loss to the tax payers of said County, and as a result thereof plaintiff will suffer damages in that he will be required to pay a higher rate of taxes than he would otherwise be required to pay.

7. "That said defendants well know that said town of Estancia is not the legal county-seat of said County and that they have no right or authority to use the funds of said County in building a courthouse or other County building in said town of Estancia. That plaintiff is informed and believes that undue influence and pressure has been brought to bear upon said defendants by citizens of said town of Estancia to build said courthouse and other County buildings in Estancia for the purpose of furthering the claims of said town of Estancia for the location of the county-seat of said County at said town of Estancia.

8. "That plaintiff is the owner of considerable real estate and other property at said town of Progreso, the legal county-seat of said County, and that if said defendants cause a courthouse and other County buildings to be built at Estancia it will have the effect of causing the legal county-seat of said County to be removed from said town of Progreso and plaintiff will suffer damages in that the value of his real estate and other property located at Progreso will be rendered considerably less valuable by reason of the fact that it will be a greater distance from the county-seat of the County and by reason of the further fact that the growth of the town of Progreso, which is being furthered by the fact that the legal county-seat of said County is at present at said town of Progreso and the value which has attached to plaintiff's property by reason of its proximity to Progreso, as the county-seat of said County, will be impaired."

The plaintiff, as shown above, made affidavit that the amendatory act of the 36th Legislative Assembly was to the effect of removing the county seat from the "said town of Progreso." The act locating the county seat, says nothing about "the town of Progreso," the fact being that there was no town of Progreso at that time. All the Progreso that existed at that time was the sheep ranch of Col. J. Francisco Chavez, which was called Progreso, and at which place the county seat was never established, the county commissioners never having held a single session at that place. At the organization of the county on January 2, 1905, the commissioners met and organized in a

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### Bonds Bring Good Returns.

The \$25,000 of Establishment Bonds of Torrance County, which were delivered to Solomon Luna by the county commissioners at Estancia on August 9th, were sold to E. H. Rollins & Sons of Denver, Colorado, for \$25,750 and accrued interest. This is a total of \$31,375 received by Valencia county for our \$25,000 in bonds, or practically twenty-five and one-half per cent above par. Not so bad for Torrance county bonds!

### Schools Open September 6

The seats and furnishings for the new school building arrived this week, and have been unloaded. Everything will be in readiness for the opening of the fall term of school on Monday, September 6. Word has been received from the recently elected principal T. N. Russell, to the effect that he has accepted the position and will arrive in Estancia in time to take up the work. Mr. Russell has been conducting a Normal School at Vinson, Oklahoma, and comes highly recommended. It is taken for granted that Mr. Russell will grasp the opportunity of building up a splendid school for the metropolis of the valley, at the same time winning no small laurels for himself.

The assistant teachers are ready to take up their work, all three of those mentioned in those columns some weeks ago, having accepted. They are Miss Minnie Laws, Miss Zella Roberts and Mrs. Edna Ford.

### Stockholders Meeting.

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the stockholders of the Estancia Public Service Company will be held at The M. E. Church parlors on Wednesday afternoon, September 15, 1909 at 2 o'clock, to attend to such business regarding the attempt for artesian water and any other matters which may rightfully come before said meeting. All stockholders are urged to be present, or send their proxies, as it is imperative that a majority of the stock be represented.

S. Spore, President  
H. C. Williams, Secretary

### Died.

On yesterday morning at 5:20 o'clock at the ranch-home southwest of Estancia, J. S. Bidwell, after having suffered for some time the ravages of typhoid fever. A brother-in-law, J. O. Anderson arrived on last Friday from Rippey, Iowa, to assist the aged father in caring for the young man, but all in vain.

Mr. Bidwell was born November 27, 1879 in Boone County, Iowa, having just reached the prime of life. With his father he came to the Estancia Valley and took up a homestead, which he was improving and changing into a home. The aged father is left alone in his grief.

The body was shipped last evening to Rippey, Iowa, accompanied by the brother-in-law, Mr. Anderson, where interment will occur.

## DRY ARROYOS RAGING TORRENTS

Shower Sunday Assumes Proportions of Cloudburst

A heavy rain, general over the larger portions of the valley, fell on last Friday afternoon, being especially severe some distance north and west of Estancia. Just west of Antelope Springs the storm amounted almost to a cloudburst. Arroyos were bank-full, while fields were soaked as deep as the plow had ever penetrated the soil.

On Sunday afternoon a rain storm assuming the proportions of a cloudburst visited the foothills country west of Estancia, the rain falling in torrents for some time. Within a few hours the arroyos took on the appearance of rivers, the water coming down in solid banks. Several narrow escapes from drowning are reported. In the Hodges Draw, a daughter of William Sutton had a close call. She with her brother attempted to cross the draw, the little fellow passing over in safety. The current proved too strong for the horse she was riding, throwing both horse and rider into the stream. Only by the help of neighbors was she saved from a watery grave.

Sunday evening Mr. and Mrs. Paup started to return home after a visit with their neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Richart, five miles southwest of town. Without thinking of anything unusual, they got into the cart and left the house-yard, following the usual road through the draw, over which they had come dry shod a little while before. No sooner had the horse started down the embankment, than he was either thrown or lay down in fright, and the current took charge of the cart. Mr. Paup got out to try to get the horse up and lead him out, while Mrs. Paup stood on the seat crying loudly for help. The Richarts hearing the screams rushed out to find their meadow a raging river. Young Richart swam in and cut the tugs of the harness, freeing the horse, after which the cart was dragged ashore. Mrs. Paup still clinging to the seat, Mr. Richart had been told that his usually peaceful meadow occasionally went on a rampage, but thought it was only "a dry country" joke, and did not believe it. He says now he will believe anything they tell him about this country.

Dr. Boyd on Sunday afternoon was marooned a few miles southwest of town, but succeeded in getting back all right, by driving about a quarter of a mile through water at times deep enough to enter the buggy bed. He does not deny having been somewhat sea-sick part of the time, however.

While some damage has been done by the floods, the benefit will replace this several times over. Late crops will make good feed, while earlier crops will mature lots of grain and beans. The rain is two days earlier than two years ago, at which time a large acreage of crops had been given up as lost, but which yielded good harvest before frost.

The Torrance County Leader has changed hands, Mr. Evans of Clovis taking charge on Monday of this week.